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For Immediate Release

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Gov. Herbert opens three investigations into Stericycle

SALT LAKE CITY (Sept. 25, 2014) – In response to new allegations concerning public health and safety, Gov. Gary Herbert has launched three investigations into alleged misconduct at the Stericycle facility in North Salt Lake. Protecting the health and safety of the public is the governor's primary concern.

An investigation by the Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ) looking into possible regulatory violations relating to the parameters of Stericycle's permits began Sept. 17, the day the allegations were shared with the Governor's Office.

The following day, the Utah Labor Commission (ULC) began looking into potential violations of occupational safety and health standards that would endanger workers at the site.

Today, the governor called for the Attorney General's Office to open a criminal investigation. By opening a criminal investigation, the state can conduct a more thorough examination of Stericycle's actions.

In recent months, the DEQ has increased compliance inspections, which are now conducted daily. The state has also required Stericycle to better protect surrounding communities by:

1. Requiring installation of enhanced emission controls that meet current, more stringent EPA standards. Installation of new controls will reduce emissions of all pollutants.
2. Requiring installation of a new emergency generator to reduce emergency bypass events.
3. Requiring installation of continuous emission monitors at the facility.

The governor has directed the investigations to be completed as soon as possible. If any of the allegations are ultimately substantiated, he intends to use his full authority take swift and aggressive corrective action.

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